

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Patent Application of:
Mitsuhiro OMAE

Attorney Docket No.: SPO-0209

Examiner: H. Tran

Application No.: 10/088,266

Art Unit: 2861

Filed: March 18, 2002

Confirmation No.: 5107

For: DRIVING IC AND OPTICAL PRINT HEAD

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated September 30, 2003,
Applicants provisionally elect Group III, claims 17 – 40 drawn to time-division driving,
with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently
related that a thorough search of the subject matter of any one group of claims would
necessarily encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it
is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could
be made without serious burden. See MPEP 803 which is stated that "if the search and
examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner
must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims that are distinct or
independent inventions" (emphasis added).

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It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply to the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and the duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 27, 2003

By:



~~David T. Nikaido~~
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